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87-0684

12 February 1987

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MEMORANDUM FOR: Dave Gries

FROM:

Hal Ford

SUBJECT:

Approach from SSCI Staffer John Despres re Bob Gates'

Up-coming Confirmation Hearings

- 1. Despres phoned me this afternoon explaining that (a) he has recently joined the SSCI Staff (with Senator Bradley); (b) is helping the SSCI to get "as clear a picture as possible"--for the confirmation hearings--"of what Bob Gates' active or passive role was" in relation to things Iranian; and (c) wanted my assistance re some events "to which you, Hal, were privy" about the NIC's role.
- 2. I told him I wasn't aware I had been privy to much of anything. He replied that what he had particularly in mind was Graham Fuller's memo and the later SNIE on Iran.
 - 3. I confined my remarks to:
 - Explaining the excellent general practice Casey and Gates have had about urging the NIOs to do creative think pieces, and that Graham's piece had been one of these.
 - Explaining how these have been sent up to Casey informally, and how he has then sometimes passed copies of these pieces around town.

 Suggesting	that he	might	wish t	to contact	: Herb	Meyer	, if	he hasn'	t
already, a	lthouah 1	[didn'	t know	whether	Herh	could	add	anything.	

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Hal Ford Office of CIA's Historian

cc: C/NIC VC/NIC

D/Exec Staff

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